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Message Text

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42
ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-10 /096 W
---------- 034480
P R 131610Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3357
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCNSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS BEIRUT 3248

CAIRO ALSO FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

LONDON FOR LAMBRAKIS

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR US EG PLO XF
SUBJECT: BEIRUT WEEKLY ALLEGES SADAT-KISSINGER ACCORD ON US RECOG-
NITION OF PLO

1. ACCORDING INDEPENDENT BEIRUT WEEKLY AL HAWADITH MAR 13,
SECRET AGREEMENT EXISTS BETWEEN PRES SADAT AND SECRETARY
KISSINGER RE USG RECOGNITION OF PLO. HAWADITH'S ALLEGATION,
BASED ON RECENT CONVERSATION IN ASWAN BETWEEN WEEKLY'S PUB-
LISHER, SALIM LAWZI, AND "HIGH-RANKING EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL."
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2. IN COURSE OF CONVERSATION REGARDING OPPOSITION BY SOME ARAB ELEMENTS TO CURRENT EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE SECOND DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT IN SINAI, LAWZI QUOTES "EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL"AS FOLLOWS: "I WILL TELL YOU SECRET WHICH IS BEING DIVULGED FOR FIRST TIME. DO YOU REMEMBER SADAT'S PRESS CONFERENCE AT END OF HIS VISIT TO FRANCE? SADAT SAID IT WOULD NOT BE LONG BEFORE US RECOGNIZES PLO. WHAT HE DID NOT SAY IS THAT THERE IS AGREEMENT BETWEEN HIM AND DR. KISSINGER ABOUT US RECOGNITION OF PLO ON EVE OF RECONVENING GENEVA CONFERENCE. MY INFORMATION IS THAT ABU AMMAR ('ARAFAT) WAS NOTIFIED OF THIS. THEREFORE, WE WERE GREATLY SURPRISED IN CAIRO WHEN WE READ PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S STATEMENT EMPHASIZING CREATION OF DEMOCRATIC SECULAR PALESTINIAN STATE IN LIEU OF ISRAEL. I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY WE (ARABS) PUT FORWARD DEMOCRATIC STATE CONCEPT AS TACTICAL DEVICE AT TIMES AND IN CONDITIONS WHICH SERVE OUR STRATEGY. BUT WHY DID PLO CONCENTRATE ON THIS SUBSTITUTE STATE AT THIS TIME, AS IF THEY WISHED TO INCREASE DIFFICULTIES CONFRONTING DR. KISSINGER IN RECOGNIZING PLO?"

3. WHEN ASKED BY LAWZI WHO SAID DEMOCRATIC SECULAR STATE CONCEPT WAS ONLY TACTICAL SCREEN, EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL REPORTEDLY RESPONDED THAT IF PLO WISHES GO TO GENEVA (WHICH HE CLAIMED IT DOES), IT WILL HAVE TO FACE NECESSITY OF RECOGNIZING ISRAEL. HE SAID ISRAEL IS ALREADY RECOGNIZED BY US AND USSR, AS WELL AS BY EGYPT, JORDAN AND SYRIA ON BASIS THEIR ACCEPTANCE OF SC RES 242. HE CONCLUDED: "WE (EGYPT) AND SYRIA INSIST THAT PLO SHOULD SIT IN CONFERENCE, AND SOVIETS HAVE ASSERTED THEY HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT WITH PLO TO GO TO GENEVA AND TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL." ASKEDY BY LAWZI WHAT ISRAELI BORDERS PLO WOULD BE REQUIRED TO RECOGNIZE, EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL REPLIED: "SUCH DETAILS MUST BE LEFT TO NEGOTIATIONS. WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS PRINCIPLE OF RECOGNIZING EXISTENCE OF ISRAEL".
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